

RADIO RECEIVER THAT CHANGES FUNCTION ACCORDING TO THE OUTPUT OF AN INTERNAL VOICE-ONLY DETECTOR

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A radio receiver includes a voice-only detection mechanism that detects when the
5 current radio station is transmitting mostly voice, and that changes the function of the
receiver depending on whether or not the current radio station is transmitting mostly
voice. In a first embodiment, the radio receiver mutes its audio output when the voice-
only detection mechanism detects a voice broadcast. The audio output can be enabled
once again when the voice-only detection mechanism detects a non-voice signal. The
10 first embodiment thus allows commercials and disk jockey talk to be automatically
muted, with the volume returned to its previous level when music resumes. In a variation
of the first embodiment, the radio receiver mutes its audio output when the voice-only
detection mechanism detects a non-voice broadcast, and enables the audio output when
the voice-only detection mechanism detects a voice signal, thereby allowing a listener to
15 listen to talk radio while muting musical commercials. In a second embodiment, the
radio receiver changes to a different radio station when a voice-only signal is detected.
The second embodiment preferably includes a spectrum analyzer that can store a
frequency spectrum "signature" of a radio signal, and a second tuner that scans the
available radio stations for a signal that matches the stored signature. This allows the
20 radio receiver to automatically switch from a first radio station to a second radio station
that is playing music that matches the preferences of the listener when the voice-only
detection mechanism detects a mostly voice signal. In a variation of the second
embodiment, the radio receiver may automatically switch from a first talk radio station to
a second talk radio station when the voice-only detection mechanism detects a musical
25 signal, indicating a commercial.